

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Travis County

MINUTE ORDER

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Austin District

Transportation Code, §191.001 and §191.002 establish height requirements for structures over railroad tracks and distance requirements of structures and materials near railroad tracks. Texas Transportation Code §191.005 establishes that the Texas Transportation Commission (commission), for good cause shown, may, by order, permit a railroad company or other corporation, firm, partnership, or individual or county or municipality to deviate from a provision of the statute.

The Texas Department of Transportation (department) received an application from Capital Metro Transportation Authority (CMTA) requesting a clearance deviation at the new MetroRail Downtown Station located in Austin, Texas. The department has investigated the location to determine whether good cause could be shown and whether the deviation could be operated in a reasonable and safe manner.

In determining whether the facility has demonstrated good cause for the requested clearance deviations, the department considered:

- (1) federal and state requirements on the facility such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA);
- (2) the safety of passengers entering and exiting rail vehicles;
- (3) the safety of railroad employees near railroad tracks; and
- (4) limitations of existing equipment and structures near railroad tracks.

In determining whether the requested clearance deviations are reasonable and safe, the department reviewed the facility plans and site and determined the facility will include sufficient:

- (1) warning signs, pavement markings, lighting and/or other control devices to inform employees of the limited clearance locations; and
- (2) safety rules, speed restrictions, operations requirements, and training to address employee safety.

Based on the investigations, the department has determined that the clearance deviations as listed in Exhibit A meet the requirements of Transportation Code §191.005 and recommends approval. The Office of the Attorney General has been notified as required by §191.005(a).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the commission that the railroad clearance deviation application from CMTA for their facility located in Austin, Texas as described in Exhibit A is approved.

Submitted and reviewed by:

Recommended by:

DocuSigned by:

Peter Espy

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Director, Rail Division

DocuSigned by:

James M. Bass

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Executive Director

115886 Oct 29 2020

Minute
Number

Date
Passed

CD-2020-08-00070
Capital Metro Transportation Authority (CMTA)
MetroRail Downtown Station
408 East 4th Street, Austin, Texas

Number	Reduced Clearance Description	City	Location	Clearance	Required Minimum	Reduced Clearance	RR Stationing
1	Lance Armstrong Bikeway Handrail Crossing Waller Creek Bridge along Tracks	Austin, Texas	Trackway 1	Horizontal	8 Feet 6 Inches	6 Feet 0 Inches	MP 55.39
2	4th Street Waller Creek Barrier Wall along Tracks	Austin, Texas	Trackway 2	Horizontal	8 Feet 6 Inches	5 Feet 9 Inches	MP 55.39
3	Vehicular Traffic Signal Arms over Trackway at Red River Street	Austin, Texas	Trackway 1 and 2	Vertical	22 Feet 0 Inches	18 Feet 0 Inches	MP 55.30
4	Stone Seating Wall at Center Platform Entrance Ramp	Austin, Texas	Trackway 1 and 2	Horizontal	8 Feet 6 Inches	7 Feet 6 Inches	MP 55.25
5	Concrete Walls with Metal Railing along Lance Armstrong Bikeway	Austin, Texas	Trackway 1	Horizontal	8 Feet 6 Inches	5 Feet 9 Inches	MP 55.25
6	Concrete Walls in the Station area along Tracks	Austin, Texas	Trackway 1 and 2	Horizontal	8 Feet 6 Inches	7 Feet 6 Inches	MP 55.25
7	Downtown Station Platform Canopies along Tracks	Austin, Texas	Trackway 1 and 2	Vertical	22 Feet 0 Inches	17 Feet 5 Inches	MP 55.25
8	Station Platform Edges along Tracks	Austin, Texas	Trackway 1, 2, and 3	Horizontal	8 Feet 6 Inches	5 Feet 9 Inches	MP 55.25
9	Hilton Sidewalk Concrete Wall and Metal Railing along Tracks	Austin, Texas	Trackway 3	Horizontal	8 Feet 6 Inches	7 Feet 6 Inches	MP 55.25
10	Removable Bollards (Prevent Vehicles from Turning into Station Area from Red River Street)	Austin, Texas	Trackway 2	Horizontal	8 Feet 6 Inches	5 Feet 9 Inches	MP 55.25